



MEDIA ADVISORY

Today's Date: February 17, 2011

District: 7--Los Angeles/Ventura

Contact: Judy Gish

Phone: (213) 897-3487

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS TO CELEBRATE ARROYO SECO PARKWAY'S BIRTHDAY

California's First Freeway Recently Turned 70 and District 7 is Launching a Museum Exhibit in its Honor

WHO: Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina (Invited)
Councilmember Jan Perry (Invited)
Caltrans District 7 Director Mike Miles
Automobile Club of Southern California Historian Matthew Roth

WHAT: When the Arroyo Seco Parkway (SR-110, AKA Pasadena Freeway) officially opened on December 30, 1940, it was the biggest thing that had ever happened to transportation in California and the western states. Freeway and Hollywood photographer Richard C. Miller described it as "a new world" and compared it to the building of the "great cathedrals of Europe." At the very least, it signaled the beginning of the Freeway Age.

In honor of the historic highway's 70th anniversary, the district is launching its new museum series with a tribute to the first freeway in California, including archival photos, videos featuring historic footage and other memorabilia. Several experts on the history and future of the Arroyo Seco Parkway will be on hand to discuss it, including the possibility of one or more "old timers" who were there at the beginning.

WHEN: Wednesday, February 23, 10 a.m.

WHERE: Caltrans District 7 Headquarters Building, 100 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

